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Editorial: Light at end of the tunnel

As frustrations mounted over the months and years, it has become increasingly clear Kokomo Recycling is unable to meet the long-held goal of curbside recycling in the city. This situation has been beyond exasperating for those who have pushed for this for some time.

But the city gave a new burst of optimism to those watching this saga unfold when it announced last week the new partnership with a locally based company that could get the job done. Recovery Recycling, which is now based in Peru, was named as the new partner in the venture. Its operations are set to move to 2282 N. Touby Pike, where it also will operate a 24-hour recycling drop-off location.

Not only that, but the company also announced it will be bringing 17 jobs to the city as it expands operations from its current level of eight employees to 25. The next two months will see the company moving its headquarters while also maintaining a presence in Miami County. This is all part of the push to meet the goal of implementing curbside recycling starting Dec. 1. A full 25 percent of the city will be covered initially, with a new area coming online each week in December.

That means when 2016 arrives, we might finally have the answer to the question we've all been asking for so long: When will this dream become a reality?

We are sad to see the curbside partnership between the city and Kokomo Recycling come to an end. We all wanted it to work, but it has become obvious the financial constraints made it all but impossible. Stagnation on this issue was not an option, though. We are hopeful, based on this latest bulletin, we finally can move ahead in a way that's beneficial for all involved.

If all goes to plan, we'll have more jobs, curbside recycling and a fiscally solvent plan to keep it all running. Now that there's a light at the end of this tunnel, let's see this through to the end.